

Application # 09/470,566
Submitted June 30, 2005
Reply to Office Action of April 8, 2005

II. REMARKS

4. The Office Action dated April 8, 2005 has been carefully considered.

Reconsideration of this application, in view of the following amendments and remarks, is respectfully requested.

A. References

5. The following U.S. patents were considered in the office action:

- US Patent 5,047,853 ("Hoffert"), filed March 19, 1990.
- US Patent 6,384,862 ("Brusewitz"), filed March 12, 1997.

B. Overview of Office Action

6. The office action acknowledges the declaration "amendatory material consists of the same material incorporated by reference" which was provided by Applicant in the Office Action Response of January 14, 2005. The 35 U.S.C. 112 rejection is withdrawn by the examiner.

7. The Office Action states that claims 21-24 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed. Accordingly, claims 21-24 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention.

8. The office action rejected claims 1-20 as being unpatentable over of Hoffert et al. (US 5,047,853) in view of Brusewitz et al. (US 6,384,862) under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

C. Remarks

9. The applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 25-37.

Please amend claim 31 to add a period.

10. Please cancel claims 1-24 without prejudice.

Page 6 of 7

Application # 09/470,566
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D. New Claims

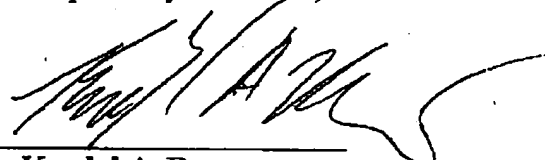
11. Claims 38-46 are presented with this amendment. Claim 38-46 are dependent on allowed claims and therefore should be allowed as written.

12. Claims 38-46 do not add new matter but claim elements originally presented in claims 3, and 13-20, respectively. No new matter is added.

III. Reconsideration Requested

13. The undersigned respectfully submits that, in view of the amendment, and the foregoing remarks, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. It is respectfully requested that this application be reconsidered, that the current claims be allowed, and that this case be passed to issue. If it is believed that a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of the present application, or clarify matters with regard to its allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned inventor at 408-739-9517.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: June 30, 2005